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Financing of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan

Budget performance of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 and proposed budget for the United Nations Mission in South Sudan for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

Appropriation for 2015/16	$1,085,769,200
Expenditure for 2015/16	$1,039,770,200
Underexpenditure for 2015/16	$45,999,000
Appropriation for 2016/17	$1,081,788,400
Projected expenditure for 2016/17*	$1,081,694,800
Projected underexpenditure for 2016/17	$93,600
Proposal submitted by the Secretary-General for 2017/18	$1,178,338,600
Recommendation of the Advisory Committee for 2017/18	$1,159,080,000

* Estimates as at 28 February 2017

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I. Introduction

1. **The recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in paragraphs 33, 35, 36, 37, 40, 43, 45, 48, 52 and 53 below would entail a reduction of $19,258,600 to the proposed budget of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 (A/71/841).**

2. During its consideration of the financing of United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS), the Advisory Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General, who provided additional information and clarification, concluding with written responses received on 27 April 2017. The documents reviewed and those used for background by the Committee are listed at the end of the present report. The detailed comments and recommendations of the Committee on the findings of the Board of Auditors on the United Nations peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016, and on cross-cutting issues related to peacekeeping operations, can be found in its related reports (A/71/845 and A/71/836, respectively). The observations and recommendations of the Board pertaining specifically to UNMISS are set out in paragraph 10 below.

II. Budget performance report for the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016

3. In December 2015, the Security Council, by its resolution 2252 (2015), increased the authorized strength of military observers and military contingent personnel up to a ceiling of 13,000 troops and 2,001 police personnel, including United Nations police and formed police personnel and 78 corrections officers (Government-provided personnel). Pursuant to the resolution, the authorized number of military observers increased from 166 to 222; the number of military contingent personnel increased from 12,334 to 12,778; the number of United Nations police officers increased from 663 to 763; and the number of formed police personnel increased from 660 to 1,160.

4. By its resolution 69/260 B the General Assembly appropriated an amount of $1,085,769,200 gross ($1,067,594,100 net) for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016. Expenditures for the period totalled $1,039,770,200 gross ($1,022,728,300 net), reflecting a budget implementation rate of 95.8 per cent. The resulting unencumbered balance of $45,999,000 in gross terms represents 4.2 per cent of the appropriation.

5. The total expenditures for the 2015/16 period comprise $415,356,700 for military and police personnel, $240,159,400 for civilian personnel and $384,254,100 for operational costs, representing 39.9 per cent, 23.1 per cent and 37.0 per cent, respectively, of the total expenditures.

6. For military and police personnel, lower-than-budgeted expenditures were incurred in 2015/16 ($43,300,600, or 9.4 per cent) reflecting the net effect of:

(a) Lower-than-budgeted expenditures under: (i) military contingents ($42,287,300, or 10.6 per cent), attributable mainly to higher deductions for non-deployment, delayed deployment or the deployment of non-functional contingent-owned equipment in line with General Assembly resolution 67/261, lower actual travel costs and delayed deployment of contingent units; and (ii) United Nations police ($2,876,300 or 9.2 per cent), attributable mainly to a lower actual average deployment of 538 United Nations police officers in 2015/16 compared with 630 police officers funded during the 2015/16 period;

(b) Higher-than-budgeted expenditures under: (i) military observers ($1,417,000, or 17.5 per cent), attributable mainly to a higher actual average deployment of 192 military observers in 2015/16 compared with 158 funded during the 2015/16 period; and (ii) formed police units ($446,000, or 2.3 per cent), attributable to a higher actual average deployment of 684 formed police personnel in 2015/16 compared with 581 funded during the 2015/16 period pursuant to Security Council resolution 2252 (2015) (see para. 3 above).

7. For civilian personnel, higher-than-budgeted expenditures were incurred in 2015/16 (2,511,900, or 1.1 per cent), reflecting the net effect of:

(a) Higher-than-budgeted expenditures incurred under: (i) International staff ($1,265,100, or 0.7 per cent), attributable primarily to a lower actual average vacancy rate of 12.7 per cent for staff located at the Mission (excluding the Regional Service Centre at Entebbe, Uganda); and (ii) United Nations Volunteers ($3,137,300, or 16.6 per cent) owing to a lower actual average vacancy rate of 10.0 per cent for international United Nations Volunteers located at the Mission, compared with the 20.0 per cent budgeted rate;

(b) Lower-than-budgeted expenditures incurred under national staff ($1,984,500, or 4.8 per cent), attributable primarily to the application of the prevailing United Nations operational exchange rate of the South Sudanese pound against the United States dollar, which depreciated during the 2015/16 period (from 3.1 South Sudanese pounds as at 1 July 2015 to 40.21 South Sudanese pounds as at 30 June 2016), as well as to staff assessment and common staff costs. The reduced requirements were offset in part by higher requirements for national staff salaries owing to a lower actual average vacancy rate of 17.7 per cent for national General Service staff located at the Mission compared with the budgeted rate of 30.0 per cent. For staff located at the Regional Service Centre, the actual average vacancy rate for national General Service staff was 8.3 per cent, compared with 17.0 per cent applied in the budget.

8. For operational costs, lower-than-budgeted expenditures were incurred in 2015/16 ($5,210,300, or 1.3 per cent), reflecting the net effect of:

(a) Lower-than-budgeted expenditures incurred under: (i) official travel ($113,800, or 1.9 per cent), attributable primarily to the delivery of training programmes within the Mission area to the extent possible; (ii) ground transportation ($4,620,600, or 21.6 per cent), attributable mainly to the lower actual cost of fuel of $0.89 per litre compared with $1.16 per litre budgeted, the lower actual consumption of 4.2 million litres compared with 6.3 million litres budgeted and lower requirements for spare parts; (iii) air transportation ($27,149,400, or 18.6 per cent) attributable to the delayed deployment of three helicopters and the non-deployment of five tactical helicopters, one fixed-wing aircraft and the unmanned aerial system, as well as the lower actual cost of fuel of $0.94 per litre compared with $1.19 budgeted and the lower actual consumption of fuel (16.7 million litres) compared with 20.6 million litres budgeted; (iv) communications (611,800, or 4.4 per cent), attributable mainly to the non-deployment of satellite systems to support Internet services that were no longer required owing to the closure of county support bases, as well as requirements for the budgeting of Internet services under communications and the recording of expenditures under information technology; and (v) medical ($658,300, or 23.4 percent), attributable primarily to lower actual requirements for medical supplies;

(b) Higher-than-budgeted expenditures under: (i) consultants ($184,400, or 32.3 per cent), attributable primarily to the engagement of non-training consultants for medical services and management services related to the O3b (the "Other 3 billion") high bandwidth-low latency solution project; (ii) facilities and

infrastructure ($11,424,700, or 10.7 per cent) attributable to an increase in the price of prefabricated facilities in the most recent systems contract, the acquisition of additional prefabricated facilities and water pumping systems to accommodate additional uniformed personnel and the acquisition of solar farm equipment; (iii) naval transportation ($5,555,600, or 295.6 per cent), attributable primarily to the acquisition of an additional 800 sea containers for the shipment of additional prefabricated facilities and related equipment to accommodate additional uniformed personnel, and the rental of a temporary floating pontoon to support the riverine unit at Juba and Malakal, for which no provisions were made in the 2015/16 budget; (iv) information technology ($1,464,300, or 8.1 per cent), attributable primarily to additional requirements for the acquisition of multifunctional printers as well as the recording of expenditures for Internet services initially budgeted under communications; and (v) other supplies, services and equipment ($9,491,000, or 13.5 per cent), attributable mainly to freight costs for the additional prefabricated facilities acquired to accommodate additional uniformed personnel, and losses on exchange arising from the impact of currency exchange rate fluctuations (see para. 54 below).

9. A detailed analysis of variances is provided in section IV of the performance report for the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 (A/71/653).

10. The comments of the Advisory Committee on the information presented in the performance report on individual objects of expenditure can be found, where relevant, in the discussion of the proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 (A/71/841) in the paragraphs below.

Observations and recommendations of the Board of Auditors regarding the United Nations Mission in South Sudan

11. In considering the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of UNMISS, the Advisory Committee also had before it the report of the Board of Auditors on the accounts of the United Nations peacekeeping operations for the financial period ended 30 June 2016 (A/71/5 (Vol. II)). In its report, the Board made observations and recommendations pertaining to UNMISS on the following issues:

(a) *Leading ledger carry forward and revaluation*. The Board noted an error in the foreign exchange conversion of a petty cash account and recommended the implementation of an internal control in Umoja prior to the preparation of the financial statements of peacekeeping operations (ibid., paras. 41-44);

(b) *Variances between appropriation and expenditure*. The Board noted underspending of 5 per cent or more between appropriation and expenditure (ibid., paras. 61-66);

(c) *Redeployments of funds*. The Board noted that UNMISS made relatively little use of redeployment (ibid., para. 67-73);

(d) *Asset and property management*. The Board noted that UNMISS was one of two missions that met the target of 1,800 points on the total property management performance index (ibid., para. 100).

The Advisory Committee trusts that the recommendations of the Board of Auditors will be implemented expeditiously.

III. Information on performance for the current period

12. The Advisory Committee was informed that as at 27 March 2017, a total of $5,680,617,000 had been assessed on Member States in respect of UNMISS since

its inception. Payments received as at the same date amounted to $5,335,868,000, leaving an outstanding balance of $344,749,000. As at 27 March 2017, taking into account a three-month operating reserve of $207,298,100, the cash available to the Mission amounted to $70,152,000. In this regard, the Committee recalls that the General Assembly has repeatedly urged all Member States to pay their assessed contributions in full, on time and without conditions (see General Assembly resolution 70/247).

13. With regard to death and disability compensation, the Advisory Committee was informed that, as at 28 February 2017, a total amount of $1,076,000 had been paid since the inception of the Mission, that unliquidated obligations amounted to $190 and that 15 out of 50 claims received were pending. **The Advisory Committee trusts that outstanding claims will be settled expeditiously.**

14. The Advisory Committee was provided with information on the incumbency of UNMISS military and civilian personnel as at 28 February 2017, as follows:

	Authorized/approved[a]	*Planned*[b]	*Encumbered*	*Vacancy rate (percentage)*
Military observers	242	222	180	18.9
Military contingents	16 758	12 778	11 574	9.4
United Nations police	703	763	675	11.5
Formed police unit personnel	1 320	1 160	830	28.4
Posts				
International staff	926	926	804	13.2
National staff				
National Professional Officers	155	155	138	11.0
National General Service staff	1 315	1 315	1 203	8.5
General temporary assistance				
International staff	35	35	32	8.6
National Professional Officers	10	10	10	0.0
United Nations Volunteers				
International	439	439	369	15.9
National	3	3	2	33.3
Government-provided personnel	78	78	68	12.8

[a] Represents the highest authorized strength for military and police personnel and the approved level of civilian staff.

[b] On the basis of planned deployment at the time of budget preparation and approval of resources. Subsequently, in August 2016, the Security Council, by its resolution 2304 (2016), increased the authorized strength of military observers and military contingent personnel up to a ceiling of 17,000 troops. December 2016, the Council, by its resolution 2327 (2016), increased the police ceiling to 2,101 police personnel, including United Nations police and formed police personnel and 78 corrections officers (Government-provided personnel).

15. The Advisory Committee was also provided with the current and projected expenditures for the period from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 and the reasons for variances. Expenditures for the period as at 28 February 2017 amounted to $719,432,100 (gross), against an appropriation of $1,081,788,400. At the end of the current financial period, the Mission projects a total expenditure of $1,081,694,800 (gross), leaving an anticipated unencumbered balance of $93,600.

IV. Proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018

A. Mandate and planned results

16. The mandate of UNMISS was established by the Security Council in its resolution 1996 (2011) of 9 July 2011. In response to the outbreak of violence in Juba in July 2016, on 12 August the Council adopted resolution 2304 (2016), in which it authorized a 4,000 troop-strong Regional Protection Force mandated to provide a secure environment in and around Juba, and increasing the troop ceiling to 17,000, while retaining the police ceiling of 2,001. In the same resolution, the Council also requested the Mission to focus on four main priorities: (a) protection of civilians; (b) monitoring, and investigating human rights; (c) creating the conditions conducive to the delivery of humanitarian assistance; and (d) supporting the implementation of the Peace Agreement. The most recent extension of the mandate was authorized by the Council in its resolution 2327 (2016), by which the Council extended the mandate of UNMISS until 15 December 2017. The resolution maintained the overall structure of the Mission's four pillar mandate while incorporating the Regional Protection Force as established in resolution 2304 (2016), and a strengthening of its focus on addressing sexual and gender-based violence (see A/71/841, paras. 1, 6, 8).

17. In his report on the proposed budget, the Secretary-General anticipates that the situation in South Sudan will remain fluid over the course of the 2017/18 period, with the relationship between UNMISS, the parties to the conflict and the Transitional Government of National Unity likely to remain challenging. He further indicates that if the restrictions and obstructions placed against United Nations operations by authorities as well as other armed groups continue, they will significantly hinder the ability of UNMISS to implement its mandated tasks and will hamper humanitarian and protection of civilians activities both within and outside of protection of civilians sites (ibid., para. 13).

18. With regard to regional cooperation, the Secretary-General indicates that the Mission will continue to, inter alia: (a) work closely with the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the African Union towards an inclusive political process; (b) coordinate United Nations engagement on the peace process in South Sudan with the Office of the Special Envoy on the Sudan and South Sudan and the United Nations Office to the African Union; (c) coordinate with other regional mission partners, such as United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA) in supporting the established Joint Border Verification and Monitoring Mechanism and providing dedicated passenger flights from Entebbe to Wau via Juba; (d) provide support to UNISFA for its liaison office in Juba, as needed; and (e) use the Regional Service Centre in the areas of on-boarding and separation, benefits and payroll, vendor payments, entitlements and official travel, claims processing (such as education grants and reimbursement for mission-related travel), cashier services, training and conference services, transport and movement control and information technology services. The Mission will also continue to use the Regional Procurement Office in Entebbe (ibid., paras. 37-38).

19. With regard to the support component, the Secretary-General indicates that the Mission will provide essential support related to the deployment of an increased number of military and police personnel, including the additional 4,000 military personnel comprising the Regional Protection Force and the additional 100 police personnel. The Mission will continue to work with the host Government to secure land and will acquire additional prefabricated facilities and furniture to accommodate the increased number of uniformed personnel. Key initiatives

proposed in the area of support include: (a) upgrade of internal camp roads in Bentiu, Malakal and Bor, at an estimated cost of $3.5 million; (b) maintenance of airstrip runways in Malakal, Rumbek and Kuajok, at an estimated cost of $1.2 million; (c) replacement of 45 prefabricated washing and bathroom facilities with hardwall structures at an estimated cost of $1.1 million as the first phase of a multi-year project involving the replacement of a total of 92 prefabricated washing and bathroom facilities; (d) construction of helipads in Wau, Bor and Kuajok camps, at an estimated cost of $800,000 in order to enhance evacuation during emergency situations; and (e) deployment of an unmanned aerial system, at an estimated cost of $2 million (ibid., paras. 33-36).

20. The Secretary-General indicates that in addition to the Mission headquarters, which is located in Juba at two locations, namely, United Nations House and the UNMISS compound in Tomping, there are nine field offices, two field office team sites, two company operating bases and two temporary operating bases. The Mission continues to close identified field office team sites, formerly known as county support bases (ibid., para. 5).

B. Resource requirements

21. The proposed budget for UNMISS for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 amounts to $1,178,338,600, representing an increase of $96,550,200, or 8.9 per cent compared with the apportionment for 2016/17. The increased requirements are mostly related to higher requirements under: (a) military personnel, related to the deployment of an additional military contingent authorized as part of the 4,000-strong Regional Protection Force, in accordance with Security Council resolution 2304 (2016); (b) police personnel, related to the deployment of additional formed police personnel in accordance with Security Council resolution 2327 (2016); and (c) facilities and infrastructure, owing mainly to the acquisition of prefabricated facilities accommodation and refrigeration equipment, as well as the implementation of a maintenance services contract for the camps. The above increases would be offset in part by decreased requirements under: (a) international staff, owing to the post adjustment multiplier that decreased from 54.5 as at 1 January 2016 to 35.9 as at 1 January 2017; and (b) air operations, owing to the net reduction of two helicopters and one dedicated fixed-wing aircraft, as well as reduced requirements under air services for the unmanned aerial system. The proposed budget provides for the deployment of 242 military observers, 16,758 military contingent personnel, 703 United Nations police officers, 1,320 formed police personnel, 926 international staff, 1,470 national staff, 442 United Nations Volunteers, 45 temporary positions and 78 Government-provided personnel.

22. Information on the financial resources proposed and an analysis of variances is provided in sections II and IV of the proposed budget (A/71/841).

1. Military and police personnel

Category	*Authorized 2016/17*[a]	*Proposed 2017/18*[b]	*Variance*
Military observers	222	242	20
Military contingent personnel	12 778	16 758	3 980
United Nations police	763	703	(60)
Formed police unit personnel	1 160	1 320	160
Total	**14 923**	**19 023**	**4 100**

[a] Represents the highest level of authorized strength. In December 2015, for the 2016/17 period, the Security Council, by its resolution 2252 (2015), increased the authorized strength for military observers and military contingent personnel up to a ceiling of 13,000 troops and 2,001 police personnel, including United Nations police and formed police personnel and 78 corrections officers (Government-provided personnel).

[b] Represents the highest level of proposed strength. In August 2016, for the 2017/18 period, the Security Council, by its resolution 2304 (2016), increased the authorized strength of military observers and military contingent personnel up to a ceiling of 17,000 troops. Subsequently, in December 2016, the Council, by its resolution 2327 (2016), increased the police ceiling to 2,101 police personnel, including United Nations police, formed police personnel and 78 corrections officers (Government-provided personnel).

23. The requested resources for military and police personnel for 2017/18 amount to $578,814,700, reflecting an increase of $117,526,600, or 25.5 per cent, compared with the appropriation of $461,288,100 for 2016/17. The increased resources proposed for 2017/18 reflect higher requirements under:

(a) Military contingents ($109,458,800, or 27.9 per cent), attributable primarily to: (i) the phased deployment of up to 16,758 military contingent personnel with funding for an average strength of 14,651 personnel, inclusive of a 10 per cent vacancy rate, compared with the deployment in 2016/17 of up to 12,778 military contingent personnel with funding for an average strength of 12,098 personnel, inclusive of a 5 per cent vacancy rate; and (ii) an increase in the rate of reimbursement to troop-contributing countries to $1,410 per person per month effective 1 July 2017, as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 68/281, compared with the budgeted rate of $1,365 for the 2016/17 period;

(b) United Nations police ($2,451,100, or 8.5 per cent), attributable primarily to the phased deployment of up to 703 United Nations police and funding for an average strength of 689 police personnel, inclusive of a 2 per cent vacancy rate, compared with the deployment in 2016/17 of up to 763 United Nations police with funding for an average strength of 586 personnel;

(c) Formed police personnel ($5,556,300 or 18.9 per cent), attributable primarily to: (i) the phased deployment of up to 1,320 formed police personnel with funding for an average strength of 1,114 personnel, inclusive of a 13 per cent vacancy rate, compared with the deployment in 2016/17 of up to 992 formed police personnel, inclusive of a 1.5 per cent vacancy rate; (ii) an increase in the rate of reimbursement to police-contributing countries to $1,410 per person per month effective 1 July 2017, as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 68/281, compared with the budgeted rate of $1,365 for the 2016/17 period.

24. In paragraph 82 of the budget proposal for 2017/18, the Secretary-General indicates that the requirements for contingent-owned equipment (major equipment and self-sustainment) for military and police personnel amount to $174,025,600 in the 2017/18 period. The Advisory Committee was informed that this represented a net amount, adjusted to take into account an estimated $22.2 million related to

deductions for non-deployment, delayed deployment or deployment of non-functional contingent-owned equipment against troop reimbursement, and $774,411 against reimbursements for formed police units, in line with General Assembly resolution 67/261. The Committee was further informed that the proposed resources for contingent-owned equipment (major equipment) for military contingents amounted to $108,766,400, reflecting an increase of $35,531,800 (48.5 per cent) compared with the apportionment of $73,234,600 for 2016/17. The proposed resources for contingent-owned equipment self-sustainment for military contingents amount to $55,706,200, and represent an increase of $11,830,600 (27.0 per cent) compared with the apportionment of $43,875,600 in 2016/17. The Committee was also informed that the proposed resources for freight and deployment of contingent-owned equipment for 2017/18 amounted to $20,220,000, reflecting an increase of 189.9 per cent compared with the appropriation of $6,975,000 in 2016/17.

25. The Advisory Committee requested further explanations regarding the proposed increases for reimbursements for contingent-owned equipment and the related freight costs. It was informed that the proposed increase was attributable mainly to the deployment of the Regional Protection Force, as authorized by the Security Council in its resolution 2304 (2016), and one additional formed police unit, as authorized by the Council in its resolution 2327 (2016), as well as the impact of a 27.5 per cent increase in the strength of uniformed personnel. The Regional Protection Force, which was responsible for providing a secure environment in and around Juba, required the deployment of specialized equipment that was operable in challenging conditions. The Committee was further informed that the increased requirements for freight of contingent-owned equipment were attributable mainly to the planned deployment of an additional formed police unit and 10 military contingent units (5 infantry units and 5 enabling units) for the 2017/18 period, compared with seven enabling units in the 2016/17 period. In addition, there was a need to transport the weapons, ammunition and other military equipment and vehicles of the Regional Protection Force by sea and air because of restrictions imposed by the host Government on the ground transportation of military equipment and dangerous goods.

26. In this connection, the Advisory Committee recalls that in the context of its consideration of the overview report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations (A/71/809), it was provided with a table showing actual/estimated/proposed contingent-owned equipment payments/requirements by mission for the 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2017/18 periods, which is contained in annex I to the present report. The data provided shows that in 2017/18, the estimated payments for contingent-owned equipment by were significantly higher for UNMISS than for all other missions. **The Advisory Committee trusts that an update on this matter will be provided to the General Assembly at the time of its consideration of the present report. The Committee further trusts that full details and explanations on the actual contingent-owned equipment payments made during the 2017/18 period will be provided in the performance report.**

27. As indicated in paragraph 23 above (see also A/71/841, paras. 93-95), the estimates for military contingent personnel, United Nations police and formed police personnel for 2017/18 are based on the application of vacancy rates of 10.0, 2.0 and 13.0 per cent, respectively, providing funding for an average strength of 14,651 military contingent personnel in 2017/18 compared with 12,098 in 2016/17, an average strength of 689 United Nations police personnel in 2017/18 compared with 586 in 2016/17 and an average strength of 1,114 formed police personnel as compared with 992 in 2016/17. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was

provided with additional information on the expected deployment schedule of military and police personnel in 2017/18. With regard to the Regional Protection Force, it was expected that 1,000 military personnel would arrive before the end of June 2017 and that the remaining 3,000 military personnel would arrive in phases between July and November 2017. No major change was expected for non-Regional Protection Force contingents during the 2017/18 period, except the routine movement of military and police personnel on rotation. With regard to formed police personnel, it was expected that 160 formed police unit personnel would arrive by April 2017 and another estimated 140 formed police personnel before 30 June 2017, with an additional formed police unit of 160 planned for deployment in October 2017. **The Advisory Committee trusts that the Secretary-General will provide to the General Assembly at the time of its consideration of the present report the most up-to-date information available regarding the projected monthly deployment of military and police personnel during the 2017/18 period.**

2. Civilian personnel

Category	*Approved 2016/17*	*Proposed 2017/18*	*Variance*
International staff	926	926	–
National staff[a]	1 470	1 470	–
General temporary assistance positions[b]	45	45	–
United Nations Volunteers	442	442	–
Government-provided personnel	78	78a	–
Total	**2 961**	**2 961**	–

[a] Includes National Professional Officer and national General Service staff.
[b] Funded under general temporary assistance.

28. The estimated requirements for civilian personnel for 2017/18 amount to $232,378,700, reflecting a decrease of $15,567,100, or 6.3 per cent, compared with the appropriation for 2016/17. The decrease is mostly related to reduced requirements under international staff ($18,444,400 (10.7 per cent)), attributable mainly to a decrease in the post adjustment multiplier applied to the estimates for international staff salaries, from 54.5 as at 1 January 2016 to 35.9 as at 1 January 2017 in South Sudan. The decreased requirements would be offset in part by higher requirements for: (a) national staff ($2,023,700, or 4.5 per cent), attributable mainly to the application of a lower vacancy rate for national General Service staff of 10 per cent compared with 15 per cent applied during the 2016/17 period; and (b) United Nations Volunteers ($539,400, or 2.5 per cent), attributable mainly to the inclusion of provisions related to well-being supplement payments for 12 months during the 2017/18 period compared to 9 months provided for in the 2016/17 period, in order to ensure compliance with the latest conditions of service for international United Nations Volunteers in effect from July 2015, as set by the United Nations Volunteer programme.

Recommendations on posts and positions

29. A total number of 2,961 civilian posts and positions are proposed for 2017/18, comprising 926 international posts, 1,470 national staff posts, 442 United Nations Volunteers, 78 Government-provided personnel, and 35 international and 10 national positions funded through general temporary assistance. The number of posts and positions proposed for 2017/18 would remain unchanged as compared with the current period. The Mission proposes to reconfigure its civilian staffing

component to meet operational demands with the current overall staffing levels through: (a) proposed reassignments and redeployments between sections, offices and units involving 72 posts and positions; and (b) the reclassification of two posts.

Reclassification of posts

Component 1: Protection of civilians

30. In the Communications and Public Information Office it is proposed to reclassify two Public Information Assistant posts at the national General Service level, to two Public Information Officer posts at the National Professional Officer level.

The Advisory Committee recommends approval of the proposals of the Secretary-General for the reclassification of posts.

Redeployment/reassignment of posts

31. The Advisory Committee notes that according to the definition provided by the Secretary-General, post reassignment is applied as follows: (a) when an approved post that was intended to cover a certain function, is proposed to implement other priority mandated activities unrelated to the original function; and (b) while a post reassignment may involve a change of location or office, it does not change the category or level of the post. In the Committee's view, reassignments should be considered as equivalent to the abolishment of a current post and the establishment of a new post and should therefore subject to procedures applicable to new posts with respect to, inter alia, the requirement for full justification of their functions, the recruitment and selection process, and the application of a vacancy factor of 50 per cent in the first year of their establishment.

32. The Advisory Committee is of the view that sufficient justification was not provided in support of the new functions/priority activities of the following proposed reassignments:

(a) A Human Resources Officer (P-3) post as an Administrative Officer (P-3) post from the Human Resources Section to the Office of the Director of Mission Support;

(b) A Budget and Finance Assistant (Field Service) post as an Administrative Assistant (Field Service) post from the Budget and Finance Section to the Office of the Director of Mission Support;

(c) A Budget and Finance Officer (Field Service) post as a Human Resources Officer (Field Service) post from the Budget and Finance Section to the Human Resources Section;

(d) An Information Management Assistant (national General Service) post as an Information Management Assistant (national General Service) post from Geospatial, Information and Telecommunications Technologies to the Information Management Unit;

(e) A Language Assistant (national General Service) post as a Human Resources Assistant (national General Service) post from the Office of the State Administrative Officer-Operations to the United Nations Volunteers Support Office;

(f) A Language Assistant (national General Service) post as a Finance and Budget Assistant (national General Service) post from the Office of the State Administrative Officer-Operations to the United Nations Volunteers Support Office,

(g) An Information Systems Assistant (national General Service) post as a Supply Assistant (national General Service) post from Geospatial, Information and

Telecommunications Technologies to the Warehouse and Commodity Management Section;

(h) A Telecommunication Assistant (national General Service post as a Supply Assistant (national General Service) post from Geospatial, Information and Telecommunications Technologies to the warehouse and Commodity Management Section.

33. **In view of the foregoing, the Advisory Committee recommends the abolishment of the above eight posts proposed for reassignment. Any related operational costs should be adjusted accordingly.**

34. As indicated in paragraph 36 below, the proposed reassignments also include seven long-vacant posts at Geospatial, Information and Telecommunications Technologies, which the Committee is recommending for abolishment.

35. **The Advisory Committee recommends approval of the remaining post reassignments proposed with the application of a vacancy factor of 50 per cent during the first year of the reassignment. Any related operational costs should be adjusted as appropriate.**

Long-vacant posts

36. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was provided with a table showing that 13 posts have been vacant for two years or longer, since 1 January 2015, comprising: one Coordination Officer (P-4) post in the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General; one Procurement Officer (P-3) post in the Procurement Section; two Carpenter (national General Service) posts in the Engineering Section; five Telecommunications Assistant (national General Service) posts and two Information System Assistant (national General Service) posts under Geospatial, Information and Telecommunications Technologies; one Liaison Assistant (national General Service) post in the State Coordinator's Office; and one Fuel Assistant (national General Service) post under Warehouse and Commodity Management Section. The Committee was informed that the above seven long-vacant posts in Geospatial, Information and Telecommunications Technologies had been proposed for reassignment in the 2017/18, as part of the Mission's efforts to reconfigure its staffing component to meet operational demands (see para. 34 above). **The Advisory Committee reiterates that posts that have been vacant for two years or longer should be proposed either for retention with a full rejustification or for abolishment (see A/70/742, para. 46). The Committee notes that the Secretary-General did not rejustify the above posts that have been vacant for two years or longer. Accordingly, the Committee recommends the abolishment of the above 13 posts. Any post-related non-post resources should be adjusted accordingly.**

National staff costs

37. The proposed resources for national staff amount to $47,463,100, reflecting an increase of $2,023,700, or 4.5 per cent, over the apportionment for 2016/17. The Secretary-General indicates that the increased requirements are attributable mainly to the application of a lower vacancy rate for national General Service staff, at 10 per cent, compared with 15 per cent applied during the 2016/17 period. The Advisory Committee notes that actual expenditures incurred in the 2015/16 period amounted to $39,058,900, reflecting a reduction of $1,984,500, or 4.8 per cent, compared with the apportionment of $41,043,400, attributable primarily to the depreciation of the South Sudanese pound against the United States dollar (see para. 7 (b) above). For the current period, as at 28 February 2017, actual expenditures incurred under national staff costs amounted to $21,868,300 against

the apportionment of $45,439,400. **In view of the pattern of expenditure (see also para. 38 below), the Advisory Committee is of the view that the proposed resources for national staff in 2017/18 should be maintained at the highest level of the actual expenditures incurred in recent years. Accordingly, the Committee recommends that the proposed resources for national staff be reduced by an overall amount of $8 million.**

38. In this connection, the Advisory Committee recalls that, in his overview report on the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations (A/71/809, para. 161), the Secretary-General indicates that the proposed budget for UNMISS for the 2017/18 period in relation to requirements for national staff salaries was estimated using the December 2015 United Nations operational exchange rate of 3.1, exceptionally. To alleviate the negative impact of the currency devaluation on national staff salaries, an exceptional measure for the payment of national staff salaries in United States dollars was implemented in the 2015/16 period, as reported in the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations (A/70/749), and will continue. The Secretary-General further indicates that the special measure will be reviewed at the end of March 2017, following the results of the local salary survey, and that a revision of the national staff salary scales is expected to be released in March 2017. **The Advisory Committee trusts that the Secretary-General will provide the results of the review on the national staff salary scales to the General Assembly at the time of its consideration of the present report.**

General temporary assistance

39. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was provided with additional information on the 45 positions funded under general temporary assistance, including details on when the positions were established and their functions. The information provided indicates that three temporary positions in the Special Advisers Section were established in the 2011/12 period to provide strategic advice to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in specialized areas. The Committee was further informed that the requirements were regularly reviewed and that the positions were utilized in a way to fill the specialized and temporary requirements to support the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on priority areas required for mandate implementation. The Committee was further informed that for the 2017/18 period, it had been decided not to request the conversion of the above three temporary positions in anticipation of the arrival of the new Special Representative of the Secretary-General, who would review the Special Adviser requirements. The Committee was also informed that the functions of the three temporary positions were as follows: (a) a Principal Political Affairs Officer (D-1) to serve as the Head of the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General; (b) a Principal Political Affairs Officer (D-1) temporarily deployed to the Office of the Director of Mission Support as a Project Manager to support the implementation of the integrated security solutions and address the gaps identified following the crisis in Juba in July 2016; and (c) a Senior Political Affairs Officer/Special Assistant (P-5) to provide strategic advice to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in the specialized areas of the Mission's activities in the field.

40. **The Advisory Committee is of the view that the continued requirement for the functions of temporary assistance positions should be justified on an annual basis. Furthermore, should the functions of the temporary positions change or no longer be required, the positions should be discontinued. The Committee therefore recommends the discontinuation of the above three general temporary assistance positions established in 2011/12 in the Special Advisers**

Section, given that the continued requirement for the positions has not been adequately justified. Any related operational costs should be adjusted accordingly.

41. **Subject to its observations and recommendations in paragraphs 33, 35, 36, 37 and 40 above, the Advisory Committee recommends approval of the proposals of the Secretary-General for civilian staff.**

3. Operational costs

(United States dollars)

Apportioned 2016/17	*Proposed 2017/18*	*Variance*
372 554 500	367 145 200	(5 409 300)

42. The estimated operational requirements for 2017/18 amount to $367,145,200, reflecting a decrease of $5,409,300, or 1.5 per cent, compared with the appropriation for 2016/17. The Secretary-General proposes decreases under most classes of expenditure, including: official travel ($256,800, or 4.5 per cent); ground transportation ($6,450,000, or 30.2 per cent); air operations ($12,097,100, or 7.7 per cent); naval transportation ($1,043,000, or 63.8 per cent); and information technology ($1,601,600, or 9.8 per cent). The decreased requirements would be offset in part by higher requirements under consultants ($212,500, or 42.7 per cent); facilities and infrastructure ($12,785,000, or 14.9 per cent); communications ($1,983,900, or 13.1 per cent); and other supplies, services and equipment ($1,026,700, or 1.5 per cent).

Consultants

43. The proposed resources for consultants for 2017/18 amount to $710,700, reflecting an increase of $212,500 (42.7 per cent) compared with the apportionment of $498,200 for 2016/17. The budget proposal indicates that the proposed requirements for training consultants amount to $289,000, resulting in an overall proposed amount of $421,700 for non-training consultancies. The Advisory Committee was informed that the balance of the provision for consultants was related to the Mission's share of the cost of implementation of the Rapid Environment and Climate Technical Assistance facility project in the amount of $216,000 and the remaining sum of $205,700 for non-training consultancies. Upon enquiry, the Committee was provided with a list of four non-training consultancies envisaged for the 2017/18 period, which were intended to provide assistance to the Mission in the areas of communications design ($19,700), social cohesion ($61,900), security analysis ($64,400) and inclusive dialogue ($59,700). **While recognizing the need for external expertise, the Advisory Committee considers that the Mission should be in a position to assume some of the tasks conferred upon the consultants. The Advisory Committee therefore recommends against the approval of the resources proposed for the consultancies regarding security analysis and inclusive dialogue and recommends that the resources proposed for consultants in 2017/18 be reduced by $124,100.**

Facilities and infrastructure

44. The proposed resources for facilities and infrastructure for 2017/18 amount to $98,611,600, reflecting an increase of $12,785,000 (14.9 per cent) compared with the apportionment of $85,826,600 for 2016/17. The Secretary-General indicates that the increase is related mainly to maintenance services, the acquisition of additional prefabricated facilities to accommodate the additional military and police contingent

personnel, a higher volume of fuel requirements and the rental of heavy earthmoving equipment, offset in part by reduced requirements for architectural and demolition services.

45. The Advisory Committee was provided with additional details on the expenditures and proposed resources for different objects of expenditures under facilities and infrastructure. The information provided shows underexpenditure trends under a number of budget lines. For instance, in the case of architectural and demolition services, while total expenditures incurred in 2015/16 amounted to $0.5 million against the apportionment of $3.8 million, reflecting underexpenditure of 87.0 per cent, and, as at 28 February 2017, no expenditures had been recorded against the apportionment of $7,756,100 for 2016/17, resources in the amount of $1.9 million are proposed for 2017/18. Similarly, under alteration and renovation services, the proposed resources for 2017/18 amount to $9.2 million, reflecting an increase of 14.6 per cent even though expenditures incurred for the current period as at 28 February 2017 amounted to $1.4 million (17.6 per cent) against the apportionment of $8.0 million, and expenditures incurred in 2015/16 amounted to $3.6 million (24.1 per cent) against an apportionment of $14.9 million. Additional examples of consistent underexpenditure across the performance and current period include utilities and waste disposal services, and the acquisition of prefabricated facilities. **In view of the pattern of expenditures, the Advisory Committee considers that the proposed resources for 2017/18 are not fully justified and recommends therefore that the overall resources proposed under facilities and infrastructure for 2017/18 be reduced by $5,000,000.**

46. **The Advisory Committee expects the Mission to provide adequate and safe housing conditions to uniformed personnel and to ensure that the additional troop and police personnel authorized by the Security Council in its resolution 2304 (2016) will be housed in permanent, semi-rigid or rigid accommodations within a six-month period following their deployment. The Committee further expects the Mission to intensify its efforts to strengthen UNMISS protection of civilian sites.**

Official travel

47. The proposed resources for official travel amount to $5,408,300, reflecting a decrease of $256,800 (4.5 per cent) compared with the apportionment of $5,665,100 for 2016/17. The Secretary-General indicates that the reduced requirements are attributable mainly to non-training travel, owing to the reduction of the daily subsistence allowance by 50 per cent as a result of the expectation that staff members will be staying within United Nations-provided accommodations for within-mission travel.

48. The Advisory Committee was also provided with details on travel proposed for 2017/18. Based on its review of the trips envisaged for 2017/18, the Committee is of the view that further efforts can be made to reduce the number of trips and to use alternative means of communication, such as videoconferences. **Accordingly, the Advisory Committee recommends an overall reduction of 20 per cent under the proposed resources for official travel for the 2017/18 period. The Committee trusts that further information on the efforts undertaken to optimize the use of travel resources will be provided in the next budget proposal.**

Travel on temporary duty assignments

49. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was provided with additional information on temporary duty assignments showing that a total of 25 temporary duty assignments at a cost of $169,883 had taken place within the Mission and a

further 16 outside the Mission at a total cost of $368,598. The information provided shows that in one case, a staff member from UNMISS travelled to New York on a temporary duty assignment at the expense of the Mission. The Committee was informed that the assignment in question was undertaken by a former UNMISS Civil Affairs Officer, upon the request of United Nations Headquarters, to work as an additional UNMISS Desk Officer in the Integrated Operation Team. The Committee was further informed that the purpose of any temporary duty assignment (within the Mission or outside it) was to provide the receiving duty station/mission with the necessary manpower to undertake critical tasks or meet urgent support requirements. **The Advisory Committee is concerned that the full costs of the temporary duty assignment of an UNMISS staff member to Headquarters were borne by the sending Mission.**

50. The Advisory Committee recalls that, according to the guidelines issued by the Department of Field Support, temporary duty assignments refer to the temporary loan of a staff member from one mission, duty station, United Nations agency, programme or fund to another mission for a period not exceeding three months. A staff member on temporary duty assignment continues to be funded by his/her parent mission or duty station (salary and entitlements) while the receiving missions pays the staff member's mission subsistence allowance, and where applicable, hazard pay. **The Advisory Committee trusts that the Mission will ensure that its use of temporary duty assignments is in strict compliance with the established guidelines. The Committee further trusts that details on the use of temporary duty assignments will be provided in the performance report for the period 2016/17.** The Advisory Committee discusses this matter further in its report on cross-cutting issues related to peacekeeping operations (A/71/836).

Air operations

51. The proposed resources for air operations amount to $144,276,300, reflecting a decrease of $12,097,100 (7.7 per cent) compared with the apportionment of $156,373,400 for 2016/17. In his budget proposal (A/71/841), the Secretary-General) indicates that the reduced requirements for 2017/18 reflect a net reduction of two helicopters owing to the reduction of four MI-8 MTV helicopters and the deployment of two tactical helicopters for the operations of the Regional Protection Force, and a reduction of one dedicated fixed-wing aircraft, as well as lower projected requirements for an unmanned aerial system. He further indicates that the costs for the deployment of the unmanned aerial system are estimated at $2 million (ibid., para. 35). The Advisory Committee was further informed that the cost estimate of $2 million for 2017/18 was based on the deployment of one unit of a short range tactical unmanned aerial system for intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance for an estimated amount of $4 million, taking into account a 50 per cent delayed deployment factor.

52. The Advisory Committee was informed that the proposed resources for the unmanned aerial system were budgeted under the air services budget line, for which a provision of $2,541,800 has been included for the 2017/18 period, reflecting a decrease of $5,740,400 (69.3 per cent) compared with the apportionment for 2016/17. The Committee was further informed that for the current period, as at 28 February 2017, expenditures incurred under the budget line amounted to $249,800 against the apportionment of $8,282,200. Furthermore, total expenditures recorded under air services in 2015/16 amounted to $49,200 against the apportionment of $5,240,900, reflecting underexpenditure of 99.1 per cent. In section V. A of the budget proposal, on the summary of follow-up action taken to implement the decisions and requests made by the General Assembly in its resolutions 70/281 and 70/286, the Secretary-General indicates that, to date,

UNMISS has not deployed an unmanned aerial system. **In view of the pattern of expenditures and given that, to date, no expenditures have been incurred in relation to the deployment of an unmanned aerial system at UNMISS, the Advisory Committee recommends that the proposed provision of $2,000,000 for the unarmed unmanned aerial system be reduced by $1,000,000.**

Communications

53. The Advisory Committee was provided with a breakdown of the proposed resources under communications showing that the proposed resources for commercial communications amounted to $8,393,400, reflecting an increase of $1,244,000 (17.4 per cent) compared with the apportionment for 2016/17. The data provided also shows that in 2015/16, actual expenditures incurred amounted to $1,840,900, reflecting 28.9 per cent utilization of the apportionment of $6,375,200. The approved resources for 2016/17 amount to $7,149,300, representing an increase of 12.1 per cent over the apportionment for 2015/16. As at 28 February 2017, actual expenditures for 2016/17amounted to $4,049,000. **In view of the pattern of expenditure recorded for commercial communications over the performance and current periods, the Advisory Committee recommends that the proposed resources for 2017/18 for communications be reduced by 5 per cent.**

Other supplies, services and equipment

54. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that the losses on exchange rate fluctuations referred to in paragraph 73 of the performance report (A/71/653) amounted to $4,170,000 and was due to the material devaluation of the South Sudanese pound, which began in December 2015, after the South Sudanese currency was changed from fixed to floating. The amount of $4.1 million comprised losses of: (a) $3.6 million net from the UNMISS South Sudanese pound house bank losses for the full fiscal year ($3.2 million from July to December 2015 and $0.4 million from January to June 2016); and (b) $0.5 million net from other losses on exchange. The Committee was further informed that the South Sudanese currency bank account, referred to as the house bank, was used by all United Nations-related entities that require payments made in South Sudanese pounds, with the largest proportion utilized by UNMISS. The house bank was holding balances in South Sudanese pounds when the major devaluation occurred. **The Advisory Committee requests the Secretary-General to provide to the General Assembly at the time of its consideration of the present report, information on whether the loss on exchange sustained by the house bank was apportioned among all United Nations entities using the account. The Committee further recommends that Secretary-General be requested to review United Nations cash holdings, with a view to ensuring prudent strategies for cash management, in particular with respect to volatile currencies.**

55. **Subject to its observations| and recommendations set out in paragraphs 33, 35, 36, 40, 43, 45, 48, 52 and 53 above, the Advisory Committee recommends approval of the proposals of the Secretary-General for operational costs.**

4. Other matters

Programmatic activities

56. In addition to mine detection activities, the Secretary-General includes in his report on the proposed budget (A/71/841) for UNMISS a provision in the amount of $1.9 million to support other programmatic activities in the areas of human rights, child and women protection, building police capacity, civil affairs, HIV awareness, violence prevention and promotion of the peace process. A list of the programmatic activities planned for 2017/18 included in the table under paragraph 89 of the

report, shows the links between the activities and the related expected accomplishments in the results-based framework. The Advisory Committee discusses this matter further in its report on cross-cutting issues related to peacekeeping operations (A/71/836).

Environmental initiatives

57. In his report, the Secretary-General indicates that the implementation of the mission-wide environmental action plan is one of the outputs of the support component. In section V. A of the report, he indicates that the Mission continues its efforts to reduce its overall environmental footprint through: (a) the purchase of waste water treatment plants which reuse and recycle treated water for its sewage treatment, including 15 plants during the 2014/15 period, 24 plants during the 2015/16 period and 23 plants planned for purchase during the current period; (b) the launch of an awareness campaign to reduce water usage to complement these efforts; and (c) implementation of an awareness campaign on reuse and recycling. In the same section, he also indicates that UNMISS has purchased a 1-megawatt solar panel system for the United Nations House in Juba and a 0.2-megawatt solar panel system for each of six other mission locations. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was provided with additional information on the Mission's environmental activities, which is contained in annex II to the present report.

58. **The Advisory Committee notes the environmental initiatives planned by UNMISS and encourages the Mission to continue to pursue its efforts to reduce the overall environmental footprint of UNMISS as requested by the General Assembly in its resolutions 69/307 and 70/286. The Committee trusts that more detailed information on the implementation of the environmental initiatives will be included in future budget reports. The Committee also stresses the importance of including information on the costs and benefits of initiatives such as the implementation of solar panel systems, as well as data on the impact of such systems in terms of energy efficiency gains and consumption levels of other sources of energy such as fuel.** The Committee discusses this matter further in its report on cross-cutting issues related to peacekeeping operations (A/71/836).

Maintenance services outsourcing contract

59. In paragraph 103 of the budget proposal, the Secretary-General indicates that the proposed increased requirements under facilities and infrastructure are attributable mainly, inter alia, to: the implementation of a maintenance services contract for camps, higher projected requirements related to clearing grass and plants surrounding United Nations House and the protection of civilians sites in Juba to create weapons-free zones to facilitate patrolling and enhance security, and to higher projected prices related to cleaning services, gardening, pest control and solid waste disposal.

60. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that the maintenance services contract agreement had been concluded with the United Nations Office for Project Services, the benefits of which included: (a) the management of a single contract for all the services at all Mission locations and the provision of standardized services; (b) the availability of robust reporting mechanisms and continuous performance evaluation at the senior management level; (c) the presence of an experienced international staff member, at the P-3 level, to manage camp services in each location; and (d) compliance with the environmental policies and guidelines of the United Nations and of the Mission. The Committee was further informed that the prior to the implementation of the maintenance contract, the Mission used individual contractors for maintenance activities, and had experienced various challenges with those arrangements, including: (a) the requirement to restrict the use of individual contractors to time-bound ad-hoc projects and not for ongoing or routine operations of the Mission; (b) the administrative burden of

recruiting, administering the payroll and terminating the contracts of individual contractors to comply with the maximum permissible duration of such contracts; and (c) frequent turnover of individual contractors requiring significant efforts in training and development.

61. **While noting the above improvements in the management of the maintenance contract, the Advisory Committee is of the view that the new arrangements should also yield efficiency gains. The Committee trusts that full details on improvements and efficiencies achieved through the implementation of the new maintenance contract will be provided in the performance report for 2017/18.**

V. Conclusion

62. The actions to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of UNMISS for the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 are indicated in section V of the performance report (A/71/653). **The Advisory Committee recommends that the unencumbered balance of $45,999,000 for the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016, as well as other income/adjustments amounting to $21,730,000 for the period ended 30 June 2016, be credited to Member States.**

63. The actions to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of UNMISS for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 are indicated in section V of the proposed budget (A/71/841). **Taking into account its recommendations in paragraphs 33, 35, 36, 37, 40, 43, 45, 48, 52 and 53 above, the Advisory Committee recommends that the estimated budget requirement be reduced by $19,258,600, from $1,178,338,600 to $1,159,080,000. Accordingly, the Committee recommends that the General Assembly appropriate the amount of $1,159,800,000 for the maintenance of the Mission for the 12-month period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018.**

Documentation

- Report of the Secretary-General on the budget performance of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan for the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 (A/71/653)
- Report of the Secretary-General on the budget for the United Nations Mission in South Sudan for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 (A/71/841)
- Report of the Board of Auditors on the accounts of the United Nations peacekeeping operations for the 12-month period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 (A/71/5 (Vol. II), chap. II)
- Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on budget performance for the period from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015 and proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (A/70/742/Add.15)
- Overview of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations: budget performance for the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 and budget for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 (A/71/809)
- General Assembly resolution 70/281 on the financing of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan
- Security Council resolutions 1996 (2011), 2304 (2016) and 2327 (2016)

Annex I

Breakdown as of March 2017 of contingent-owned equipment payments by mission, 2015/16 through 2017/18

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Mission	*2015/16*	*2016/17*	*2017/18 (proposed budget)*
MINURSO	205.8	213.8	205.1
MINUSCA	103 326.8	120 264.5	128 917.4
MINUSMA	101 638.1	100 734.6	131 016.9
MINUSTAH	37 124.4	29 318.9	36 877.1
MONUSCO	152 214.3	147 277.3	155 843.2
UNAMID	154 915.0	157 779.2	151 258.7
UNDOF	2 723.4	1 852.2	4 529.0
UNFICYP	1 401.5	1 433.1	1 426.2
UNIFIL	109 778.2	111 655.1	111 221.9
UNISFA	41 084.6	35 870.2	40 836.4
UNMIL	35 312.2	12 927.1	5 944.8
UNMISS	121 362.2	128 873.1	174 025.6
UNOCI	50 526.8	17 612.7	–
UNSOS	35 508.3	52 196.9	71 764.5
Total	**947 121.5**	**918 008.7**	**1 013 866.8**

Abbreviations: MINURSO, United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara; MINUSCA, United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic; MINUSMA, United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali; MINUSTAH, United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti; MONUSCO, United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo; UNAMID, African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur; UNDOF, United Nations Disengagement Observer Force; UNFICYP, United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus; UNIFIL, United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon; UNISFA, United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei; UNMIL, United Nations Mission in Liberia; UNMISS, United Nations Mission in South Sudan; UNOCI, United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire; UNSOS, United Nations Support Office in Somalia.

Annex II

Environmental initiatives of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan

Information provided by the Secretariat to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

In its Engineering Section, the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) has a dedicated Environmental Engineering Unit, which reports directly to the Chief Engineer. The Unit provides both oversight and implementation capacity and performs internal monitoring of the UNMISS environmental footprint. The Unit also advises the Director of Mission Support and UNMISS staff on actions and initiatives required to ensure that the UNMISS' environmental footprint is minimized. In addition, UNMISS recently created a separate and independent environmental compliance role with functions that include education, monitoring and reporting on adherence to standards, development of environmental norms and policies, investigation of environmental incidents and detailing environmental risks. The Environmental Compliance Officer focuses in particular on the activities and behaviours of military and police personnel with respect to environmental standards, knowledge and compliance.

The Mission's environmental initiatives include:

- Replacement and installation of new wastewater treatment plants across the Mission. Water re-use associated with the generation of treated water has commenced, and UNMISS anticipates reduction in per capita fresh water requirements in the 2017/18 period as water re-use increases.
- The Mission continues to recycle plastic bottles, aluminium cans, cardboard and shredded paper in conjunction with composting organic waste to reduce waste going to landfill.
- Environmental awareness and communication: UNMISS will continue to raise environmental awareness to ensure that staff members and military and police personnel are aware of the environmental policy for United Nations Field Missions and UNMISS policies and related standard operating procedures. The Engineering Section plans to produce and disseminate information, education and communication (IEC) materials and document and share good practices. In addition, UNMISS is looking forward to launching environmental awareness and sensitization exercises among communities living in protection of civilian sites, humanitarian actors and peacekeepers operating within UNMISS camps, towards safe environmental upkeep and reduction in the environmental footprint.
- Storm water management: Management of storm water is a challenge owing to the lowland positions of most of the Mission's compounds. Ineffective and/or lack of storm water drainage systems in South Sudan causes UNMISS compounds to flood during heavy rain periods. UNMISS performs regular maintenance of storm water drainage systems. The Engineering Section plans to expand and improve storm water drainage systems in all UNMISS camps.
- To reduce harmful emissions, the Mission seeks to reduce the demand in the power generated and ensure that the generators run more efficiently, thus reducing fuel consumption and associated emissions.
- Implementation of integrated pest management.

In addition, regarding water management, UNMISS facilities are supplied with water from the Nile river, boreholes and wells, and from time to time shortages are experienced. As a result, the Mission plans the following:

- To provide additional storage facilities to overcome risk of water shortages.
- To conduct a mission-wide hydro-physiological study to provide an informed basis for drilling productive boreholes and wells that will provide water during both wet and dry seasons while ensuring that there is no negative long-term impact on the local communities or natural resources.
- To continue to monitor water quality and create awareness on complying with UNMISS water quotas.

Regarding energy conservation, noting that converting part of the power generation capacity from thermal to renewable resources requires a reduction in demand, UNMISS commenced a schedule of replacement of high-energy appliances. In this regard the following measures are in progress:

- Replacement of fluorescent and incandescent lights in prefabs with LED lights. The first 4,000 lights were procured and installed in United Nations House to replace existing lights in the 2016/17 period.
- Replacement of sodium halogen lights with LED floodlights.
- Replacement of standard convection coil cookers with induction type units.